

CHS CHECKUP



A publication by and for employees of the Kentucky Cabinet for Health Services

February 15, 2002

NEWS BRIEFS

NEW URL FOR CHS INTRANET


The CHS Intranet has a new permanent home at <http://chsnet/>. You will need to update your links and bookmarks to reflect this new address.

The same great information is available on the Intranet including procedures, phone lists (including Tadiran extensions), training information, web statistics, strategic planning and more!

If you have any suggestions for new Intranet content or trouble accessing it, please contact the CHS webmaster at chswebmaster@mail.state.ky.us.

MANAGEMENT TIP

When contemplating a trip on state business, ask yourself if travel is the only way to meet the Commonwealth's need. Could this task be completed by e-mail, telephone conference call or use of the Distance Communication Learning Center? Is someone else going to the same area on the same date or a different date? If the same date, then carpool. If different date, can one of you reschedule a meeting to have a matching date for travel?




HEALTH

Buckle Up Kentucky

One argument against wearing a seatbelt is that you may be thrown from a car during a crash and escape injury. But according to Kentucky State Police records, 86 percent of vehicle occupants were killed who were either totally or partially ejected in car crashes during 2000.

TIP OF THE WEEK



Governor Patton Proclaims February American Heart Month

Gov. Paul Patton proclaimed February to be "American Heart Month in Kentucky" during an event this month at the Capitol. The Kentucky Cardiovascular Health Coalition, along with the American Heart Association, co-sponsored the Feb. 7 event to heighten awareness of cardiovascular disease in Kentucky.

The goal of the 150 organizations and individuals in the Coalition is to help people and communities find ways to improve cardiovascular health.

This can be done by promoting physical activity, such as sidewalks, parks, and walking and biking paths, and making available healthy food choices.

Among the speakers were Dr. Lynn Simon, president of the American Heart Association in Louisville; Dr. Thomas Whayne, a University of Kentucky cardiologist; and De'Nita Wright, of the Jefferson County Cardiovascular Health Coalition. Wright is helping her community by organizing awareness events stressing healthy eating habits.

Kentucky ranks fifth in the nation for deaths due to heart disease and stroke. "The bottom line is that cardiovascular disease is the number one killer in the nation and in Kentucky," Simon said. Kentucky ranks first in the nation for both the percentage of people who are physically inactive and for people who smoke. Kentucky also ranks seventh in the nation in obesity.



Gov. Patton poses with the Hite Elementary Heart Throbs of Middletown.

New Personnel Regulations

Several new Personnel regulations aimed at improving salary equity across state government took effect on Jan. 14.

The regulations address several different areas, including compensation for reentering employees, salary considerations upon demotion, direction of compensatory leave time off and FLSA. Highlights are as follow:

- Clarifies the maximum salary that may be offered to the former employees of the Executive Branch of state government who reenter state service. Former classified employees that are returning retirees, reinstated or probationarily appointed may make up to the same salary as that paid at the time they left classified service, if that salary does not

exceed the midpoint salary plus the difference in dollars between the entry level salary and the midpoint salary.

- Permits the appointing authority, in determining salary of a former unclassified (non-merit) employees with prior classified (merit) service, to consider service for both the prior classified and unclassified service.
- Provides that any employee who did not receive a salary reduction of 5 percent per grade upon demotion will not receive a salary increase upon subsequent promotion until he or she passes the pay grade from which originally demoted.
- Authorizes agencies to require an employee with more than 200 hours of

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"...promoting and safeguarding the health and wellness of all Kentuckians."

Almost Time to March for Dimes

This year's March of Dimes WalkAmerica theme is **"Be a Hero for the Tiniest Babies!"** Now in its 32nd year, WalkAmerica brings together more than 9 million walkers, volunteers and sponsors who realize that they and babies they know have been touched by the March of Dimes. You have been touched if:

- You've received a Polio Vaccine.
- Your baby or someone you know received lung surfactant therapy to treat respiratory distress syndrome.
- Your baby or someone you know was cared for in a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.
- You're aware that Folic Acid—taken before and in early pregnancy in multivitamins as part of a healthy diet—can help prevent serious birth defects of the brain and spinal cord.



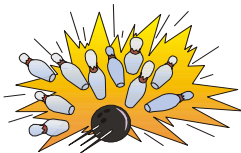
All state employees are encouraged to join a team and participate. The kick-off rally will take place on March 7, at Bell Gym at Kentucky State University. WalkAmerica will take place on Friday, April 12, at the State Capitol.

More information will follow in future editions of the newsletter. If you have questions or want to volunteer, call Mickey Jo Smith at 502-564-3236, or e-mail at mickey.smith@mail.state.ky.us



CHS Part Of Bowl For Kids' Sake

The 19th annual Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Bluegrass "Bowl for Kids' Sake" fundraising drive kicked off on Jan. 27, 2002 in Woodford County. Franklin County is scheduled to bowl the week of March 10-15, with the Cabinet for Health Services set for 12:30 p.m. on March 14 at Capitol Bowl in Frankfort.



CHS has 10 teams signed up to bowl and is looking for more. Each bowler is to obtain sponsors, collect pledges, and then bowl on the Cabinet's assigned day. Bowlers who raise \$65 will receive a free "Bowl for Kids' Sake" 2002 T-shirt. Free pizza, Arby's sandwiches, beverages and door prizes will be provided. The bowler raising the most money in each county through total collected pledges will receive cash prizes.

State government employees'

involvement in 2001 resulted in \$59,503 raised for local program services. Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Bluegrass serves over 1,100 children each year in 14 central Kentucky counties. Children matched with a Big Brother or Sister are more likely to avoid illegal drug and alcohol use, attend school regularly and be confident of their performance in school-work.

If you need a team to join or need additional sponsor sheets, call Tihisha Rawlins at 564-6930, ext. 3499.



Personnel Regulations

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compensatory leave to take time off in order to reduce the compensatory leave balance below 200 hours.

- Gives an employee who qualifies for Family and Medical Leave the option of using the 12 weeks of eligibility immedi-

NEWS BRIEFS

EMERGENCY EVACUATION ASSISTANCE SURVEY

CHS is surveying employees in the Human Resources Complex to see who may need special assistance during emergency evacuations. The survey was recently distributed by e-mail. If you have a condition for which assistance is needed, please put it in writing and send it to Paul Hatchett in the Purchasing and Operational Management Branch (5C-B). (No emails please) All information will remain confidential, but will be shared with floor monitors who are assigned to assist employees. If you have questions, call Hatchett at 564-6631.

NEW MEDICAID DEPUTY

Ned Bellau is the new deputy commissioner in the Department for Medicaid Services. He will be providing leadership over the Division of Financial Management and the Division of Systems and Member Services.

Ned received a Bachelor of General Studies from Texas Christian College in 1984 and Associates in Computer Science from Cincinnati Technical College in 1974. He has recently been working as a Project Manager with Masterpiece Software and before that as a Data Base Analyst Consultant for Kentucky's KAMES project.

Ned is bringing 25 years of information technology, billing, payroll accounting and insurance systems experience.



ately upon application or waiting until paid leave has been exhausted.

For more information visit the Personnel Cabinet's Website at <http://www.state.ky.us/agencies/personnel/pershome.htm> or contact your Personnel Administrator, Trinta Cox at 564-2157 or Tresa Straw at 564-9234.



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